American art is illustrated at the Lotos Club in a collection of about four-score paintings which were first exhibited yesterday evening and will be shown again to-morrow to other guests of the slub. Only about half a dozen pictures are shown which are not by American rtists, and the exhibition therefore serves a didactic as well as purely asthetic purpose, since it teaches that examples of good painting may be found at home as well abroad. These club exhibitions have done much to lucate an ateurs to a better knowledge of the sims an ements of native art, and their continuance seems to us a matter of importance. It ought not to be neces-sary to say that merit should be the criterion in the case of any picture, whether foreign or American, but we compelled to acknowledge that picture coleting with us has been too often the collection of fashbie names. The result is that no one dares to estiate the number of pot boilers and forgeries assigned the painters of Ville d'Avray, Fontamebleau and which are to be met with eren in collections of Everybody knows the high rank of the ter work of these painters, but the extent to which their reputations have been traded upon is not underby every collector. It would be fooligh to make lea for American art simply because it is American, but when our art produces pictures of such high quality as those recently shown at the Athletic Club, or pictures ike some which have been exhibited at the Union League and Lotos clubs, it is clear that native art has earned a right to serious consideration.

ne present exhibition at the Lotos Club contains one example of portraiture by Mr. Binoni Irwin, several rge landscapes, a few shore scenes, and the usual preaderance of genres of various descriptions. If we ake the pictures in their order we find a shore scene by Mr. Mackay followed by Mr. C. H. Eaton's large winter landscape, a view of snowy fields and pale brown trees against a cold yellow sky. One of the largest land-scapes is contributed by Mr. Minor. Next comes a new venture by Mr. H. W. Banger, who has essayed work in oil with encouraging results. After his excellent study in greens, grays and browns comes a fresh sketch of a arshland scene by Mr. Schilling, which is followed by ther of Mr. Eaton's winter landscapes, an eighteenth entury firtation painted by Mr. Leon Moran, and a Il genre by Mr. Moss Mr. Shurtleft remains faithful o the sunlight effects which he has noted in Adirondack forests, and his forest interior in this collection is a good example of the painter. The only foreign artist represented, M. Rivardi, a new-cemer, schibits a large picture of children, painted with considerable intelligence and force but reminiscent of the ateller, and a study of a harvest scene which shows more case and freshness. Next come a winter landscape by Mrs. Annette Moran and Mr. Edward Moran's picture of a boy idling upon a wharf. Mr. Irving R. Wiles, like Mr. Chase, has teen scarching the parks for "the picturesque," and certain results of his search are recorded in two pictures of much merit. One shows us a part of the lower lake in Central Park, with a swan cutting the water near at hand, and figures, the landing and the stairway in the distance. In the other picture Mr. Wiles introduces us to the tennis meadow above the upper reservoir, where he has found a fitting background for an excellent figure study. These pictures are well painted and they are worth notice, moreover, as signs of a healthy interest in the actual life of which we are a part. Central Park is full of subjects for the landscape and genre painter, but very few artists seem to have found it out; and our streets and workshops offer plenty of material for the use of the judicious. The pictures of Mr. Wiles offer a suggestive text, but we must pass on to note Mr. Lay's painting of the boy whom he introduced to us at the Academy, a large winter landscape by Mr. Wiles offer a suggestive text, but we must pass on to mote Mr. Lay's painting of the boy whom he introduced to us at the Academy, a large winter landscape by Mr. Holmer, and a stretch of marshland painted by Mr. Van Boskerck, a paptrint by Mr. Irwin, an excellent little water color after the Dutch manner by Mr. Horatio Walker, two characteristic genres by Mr. Percy Moran, a winter landscape of some force by Mr. Crane, a well painted little genre by Mr. Bonney, and picture by Messas. Seasnore Holiday." This picture presents a phase of New-York lie of extreme interest in itself rests, and his forest interior in this collection is a good cample of the painter. The only foreign artist repre

a suggestive illustration of the good done by New-York's charities.

In another room we find one of Mr. J. Alden Weit's earlier pictures. "The Burial of the Dead Bird," with a genre of Mr. Lumley, a wood interior by Mr. Monte, an excellent little landscape by Mr. Schilling, and another almost opaque by Mr. Coffin. Then come a strong study of a head by Mr. Fitz, a genre by Mr. Champney, a head in yellow, blue and white by Mr. Lippincott, a good water color of a fharsh with fishermen returning to their cottage by Mr. Ranger, a meritorious little landscape by Mr. Hoeber, a genre by Mr. Story, a clever portrait study by Mr. Day, and a strong landscape study by Mr. Chapman. Measrs, De Luce, Insley and Loop come next, preceding a brilliant bit of effect by Mr. Tyler, an example of detail by Mr. Harris and of rich color and tonailty by Mr. Walker. Mr. Fitz is represented by a good landscape and villiare scene in addition to his head. Mrs. Alice Hirschherg exhibits again her larke water color, "Maggie Tulliver," a picture of much merit, and there is other work by Measrs. Sartain, Ochtman, Barney, Rivead, Minor and a carefully executed factory interior by Mr. Elchelberger.

THE MODEL BRAKEMAN.

From The Chicago Tribune.

There is one railroad brakeman working somewhere in balota who in certain branches of railroading is a bigger man than Jay Gould. I don't know what his name is, but he is a large, raw-boued, square-connered, ugly looking man, somewhere between six and seven feet tall with a wrong font lower jaw—one which was intended for a man between seven and eight feett tall. He always works on the front end of a freight train and enjoys nothing more than a collision with a cartle train occasionally. There can't any tramps ride on his train. He's done more to solve the trainpy problem than perhaps any other man in the United States. Hits 'em with a coupling pin and leaves them for the local authorities to bury. He can't remember the time when he was small enough to take back talk. I was on his train one day in 1877 going on the Northwestern road from Tracy, Minn, to Watertown, Dak. He was feeling a little cross about something, and one of the first things he did was to twist off two brake-rods and throw them off on the prairie. At Caty, just across the territorial line, some forty or fifty Sloux Indians boarded the train. They were from the Sisseon reservation, and had been down on the Lac Qui Parle River hunting; they were rather understrained, but they had made progress enough to see the advantage of riding on the pale-face freight train over walking. They scorned the caboose, however, and scattered themselves along the top of the box cars near the centre of the train. They were of course, sufficiently civilized to know enough not to buy tickets. When the train pulled out of Gary the angular brake man came into the caboose and took off his coat. His face wore a bad scowl.

"I guess we'll have to let them Indians ride," said the conductor. "Of course, we can't put them off till we get to the next station, and even then it will be the ensiest and safest way to let them alone." The brakeman gave him one withering glance and went out the front door. We climbed up into the pilot-house of the caboose, looked abaad, and awaited t

caboose, looked ahead, and awaited the war of extermination.

The train was going full speed. "Git off'n this! Git off'n this! You dirty sneading thieves!" yelled the brakeman, as he advanced along the roof of the cars, taking long steps and swinging his arms and working his lower jaw sideways. "Jump off or I'll throw you off." The Indians only grunted and lay down and clung to the ridge-boards of the cars the harder. The first Indian he came to was a chief with feathers in his hair. The brakeman seized him by the shoulders and pulled. The haughty leader of a downtrodden people had a pretty good hold on the board and didn't come. Then the brakeman leaned over, took a better grip, and straightened up and threw himself back like a man who has leaned over to feel of a buzz saw when It's buzzing, and that proud old chief of the unconquered Sioux came up board and all, and the raw-boned twister of brakes shot him off through the air, where he lodged against a telegraph pole and willed up like an autumn leaf.

Then that brakeman went for the noble savage. He had got a taste of blood, and he made it a brighted day for Indians.

He had got a taste of blood, and he made it a brightred day for Indians.

He began to walk right through those Indians and
throw them both ways at once. They saw their only
hope was to get up and fight him. This was what he
wanted. For the next half-hour he stood up there
on top of those swaying freight cars, and fought, and
tore, and ripped, and gouged, and westled, and
pounded, and leaned over, and straightened up, and
chewed, and masticated, and otherwise communed after
his manner with those simple sons of the forest. Lo,
the poor Indian, the untutored cuss, thought there'd
a Methodist meeting house fallen on him that day.

Some of them he shot off into the tail prairie-grass;
others he rolled off into the ditch; and still others he
tossed up and left hanging on the telegraph wire, and
looked back at them sadly as if regretting that he
hadn't time to stop and adjust a clothes-pin on them.

Sometimes when he struck a car where Indians were
particularly plenty and he was fortunate in getting
good holds on them he shot them up so fast that to
us back in the caboose it looked as if a volcano had
broken out ahead which discharged nothing but North
American aborigines in a mangled condition.

Agair he would shove one ever the side and then
seem to regret the action for some reason, selze the
foot of the red man just before it was too late, and
stand on the edge and pound the side of the car with
this original possessor of the continent.

They never got him down or once caused him to
reverve from the great object he had in view. Once

stand on the edge and pound the side of the car with this original possessor of the continent.

They never got him down or once caused him to swerve from the great object he had in view. Once they completely aurrounded him, but he made a swinging kick and six noble braves got off the train and bit the right of way. There were Indians to the right of him, Indians to the left of him, Indians in front of him, but he only swing that lower jaw of his sideways a little, like the gang-plank of a steambout, and scattered them on the prairie. The rolling coteaux of Eastern Dakota were planted to Lo for over ten miles. Finally he get hold of the last one. He seemed to throw him off reluctantly, as if he wished he was rather beginning the pleasant task instead of ending it. But he faltered only a moment and the last indian struck ten feet further from the train than the first—that was the only difference. Then he came back to the caboose and put on his coat, and in its place resided a caim, contented air, which told of duty faithfully and conscientiously performed.

IS " DRIVE WHIST" GAMBLINGS

"The Hartford Courant" is discussing as to whether drive whist is gambling. A correspondent makes the points with the paper that the game is not gambling, because those who play have no risk of personal loss. Then "The Courant" comes back with the statement that the dictionary definition of gaming is playing "for money or other stake." The Connecticut statutes are entirely explicit on the point. They cread: "Every person who shall play at any game elsewhere than on a public conveyance or in a rejuted gaming house, for any valuable thing, that

be fined \$5." This makes it very plain that all those drive whist players in Connecticut who play for prizes which amount to "any valuable thing," given by their host or hostess, are gambling in the eyes of the law, and are liable to a prosecution and fine of \$5. How is it in Massachusetts?

POPULAR OLSERVATIONS.

EARLY NEWSPAPER HISTORY. AND CIRCULATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: On Christmas Day THE TRIBUNE printed an entertaining letter from Mr. Thomas McElrath, a former publisher of the paper, about the early history of THE TRIBUNE and its relation to other papers. In alluding to The Sun " Mr. McElrath said in substance that by the aid of his father-in-law (Mr. Price) he erected a building around "The Sun" Building, which then occupied the corner of Spruce and Nassau sts.; and when the Price Building was burned, and the falling walls had demoiished " The Sun " office, " Mr. Beach was then willing to sell us the unexpired term of his lease," which iease, according to Mr. McElrath, had ten or twelve years to run. The facts are that " The Sun " owned a three-story building covering 12 feet on Nassau-st., 50 feet en Spruce st. and about 20 feet in the rear subject to a ground lease. Mr. Price, the father-in law of Mr. McEirath, built a six-story building adjoining this "Sun" Building. In deing so the lax building laws of that time enabled Mr. Price to damage "The Sun" property so seriously that Mr. Beach found it expedient to anticipate any possible injury by removing his establishment to more substantial and commodious quarters at Fulton and Nassau sts. His lease of the Spruce at. property had three or four and not " ten or twelve " years to 'run and was re-let to other parties. Price's building was burned and the southerly wall falling upon completely demolished Mr. Beach's adjoining building, crushing and covering it up on its ewn foundation. In his haste to rebuild Mr. Price set his men at taking the brick from Mr. Beach's premises without waiting the fermality of seeking consent. Thereupon Mr. Beach obtained legal protection and this led to a mutually satisfactory settlement whereby Mr. Beach's building was absorbed in the new structure afterward known as

Mr. McElrath sars further of "The Sun ": (It) " was extensively circulated among the class of people from whom it received the largest share of its advertising patronage; but neither of them ("The Sun" or "Herald") very often penetrated into the parlors or sitting-rooms of the up-town residents." Mr. McElrath is in error on this point. In those days the big " sixpenny respectables," as the slow going morning papers were termed, were thought to be the "proper thing." But upon the advent of a one cent contemporary, with clean, newsy columns, public opinion seon changed. "The Sun" circulated up-town and down-tewn and into the country, and was in such demand that it was the first paper to introduce steam power for the operation of its presses; as well as to use the first enlarged and perfected presses which the Messrs. Hoe could furnish. "The Sun " circulated as extensively as any other paper of the time in question in sitting-rooms, parlors and the libraries of the cultivated and respectable people of the metropolis. In point of circulation it had the largest of any paper in the country, and was noted far and wide for its enterprise in securing news. In fact, it was in " The Sun" office that the "Associated Press," the grandest news organization of the world, was born.

In connection with the introduction of steam into "The Sun" press-room it is interesting to note that Mr. Swain, founder of " The Public Ledger " of Philadelphia, was then the leading compositor for Mr. Beach. The steam boiler was a source of such annovance to Mr. Swain's nerves, owing to his fear of an explosion, that he declined working in the room above it, resigned and sought his fortunes in the City of Brotherly Leve, where there was then no harsh hiss of impatient vapor to disturb his labors. Very respectfully, New-York, Feb. 18, 1888. MOSES Y. BEACH.

AN AGED READER'S RECOLLECTIONS. FOTED FOR JACKSON THREE TIMES, WAS CON-VERTED FROM DEMOCRACY AND HAS TAKEN THE TRIBUNE EVER SINCE.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I was twenty-one years of age October 8, 1824, and the 7th day of the next month was the day on which the Presidential election took place in the United States. There were four candidates running for the office-Andrew Jackson, John Q. Adams, W. H. Crawford and Henry Clay. No one had a majority over the other three, and the election went into the House of Represent-atives. Adams was elected there. I voted for Jackson. becoming a voter only seven days before the election.
Well, at the next Presidential election in 1828 I voted again for General Jackson and he was elected, and was a very good President. He was nominated again and got my support in 1832, and was elected. By this time (at the end of his term) having studied politics pretty thoroughly, I became convinced that I was not a Demoerat and would never vote that ticket again; accord ingly, for the last fifty-one years I have given the straight Whig or Republican party my hearty support and although now in my eighty-fifth year, still I hope to live long enough to see Blaine nominated and elected

our next President. On the first day of March, 1825. I left my native town, Wilkesbarre, and began work, blacksmithing, for Colonel Gould Phinny at Dundaff, Fenn.; and during that year I subscribed for The New-York Journal of Commerce, Took it about three years, then stopped and took "The New-York Commercial Advertiser" (I think that was the name, edited by a Mr. Stone). At any rate I continued to take it for several years. One day I noticed in its columns that a runaway apprentice boy from Vermont, named Horace Greeley, was fool enough to come to New-York and start a newspaper. I immediately made up my mind to take Horace Greeley's paper, and wrote to Mr. Greeley the same day what I had seen in Mr. Stone's paper, and requested him to send his paper to me immediately. It came: I was pleased with fi and sent the subscription price. I think it was called "The New-Yorker," and that the name was changed once or twice afterward before it was called The Tranuse; but from that time up to the present I have been a subscriber to The Dally Tranuse, and consider it one of the best—if not the very best—paper printed on earth. Now, how many men do you suppose are living that voted three times for Andrew Jackson (old Hickory) for President, and have taken The Tribune from its birth!

Carbondale, Penn., Feb. 22, 1888. On the first day of March, 1825, I left my native town, from its birth i Carbondale, Penn., Feb. 22, 1888.

A NUT FOR THE COLLECTOR TO CRACK.

Sir: Will you please oblige an old reader with a little space in the columns of your worthy journal to ask the Hon. Is Magone, Collector of the Port, if there is any law or regulation made by the United States Treasury to allow any employe of the Custom House to draw the salary of two? Can any employe fill two offices and lawfully receive pay for both?

R. R. New-York, Feb. 20, 1888.

(Sections 1,763, 1,764, and 1,765 of the Revised Statutes of the United States meet your query fully, but Section 1,765 is sufficient to quote, as it proves that if the Collector has any person in the Customs service of this port who is filling two offices or drawing two salaries, he is guilty of an absolute violation of the law. Section

of an absolute violation of the law. Section 1,765 reads:

No officer in any branch of the public service, or any other person whose salary, pay or emoluments are fixed by law or regulations, shall receive any additional pay, extra allowance, or compensation, in any form whatever, for the disbursement of public money, or for any other service or duty whatever, unless the same is authorized by law, and the appropriation therefor expligitly states that it is for such additional pay, extra allowance or compensation.

There is no law or regulation of any kind that

There is no law or regulation of any kind that permits the Collector to allow extra compensation to any officer or clerk for performing the duties which belong to any other officer or clerk, nor for any extra services whatever .- Ed.)

NUMEROUS HEIRS OF AN OLD MAID.

To the Editor of The Iribune. Sir: Is there a law called the "Collateral Inheritance Tax Law" which entitles the state to five per cent of whatever a person leaves who dies withour children, whether there is a will or not? fly answering through the columns of your valuable paper you will oblige an old maid with a little money and numerous poor helrs.

O. M.
Matteawan, Feb. 16, 1888.

(The "Collateral Inheritance Tax Law" passed in 1885 provides for a tax of \$5 on every \$100 on property that shall pass by will, or under the interstate laws, or by deed, grant or gift to take effect after the death of the grantor or giver, except such as passes to father, mother, husband, wife, brother and sister, and lineal descendants born in lawful wedlock, and the wife or widow of a son and the husband of a daughter.-Ed.)

COLORADO BEARS FREEZE TO DEATH.

Ranchman J. C. Schiles, who is now in Denver, will probably never forget an experience he had at his ranch near Piedra Parada, during the cold spell in January. Mr. Schiles only went in last summer and has a comfortable little house under the shelter of the foothills. The weather preceding the cold spell in January, he says, had been boautful and he was out on the range every day. On January 13 it bream to get cold and the thermometer dropped from 46 degrees above zero to 15 degrees below. On the following day it went down with lightning rapidity and his spirit thermometer showed 38 degrees below at nightfail. Each day for a week was colder and the lowest point attained by the mercury was, if his thermometer is accurate, 58 points, which was noted in the afternoon of January 17.

Mr. Schiles remained at home during the cold spell, From The Denver News.

and for four days did not leave the house. On the opening of the third cold day he noticed that bear and deer, which had been unusually plentiful during the winter, began to come down to low ground, and on the morning of the fourth day he opened his door to get some wood, but was brought up at close range by a low growl. Upon looking up he saw four bears within twenty feet of his cabin. They were great big fellows and Mr. Schiles made up his mind to have one. He got his riffe, but the bears seemed to divine his motive and got out of rangs. The intense cold prevented him from following, and after laying in enough wood to last two or three days, and filling his water barrel, he went back into the house and remained there until the cold weather had passed.

During the day the bears returned, and deer and

and filling his water barrel, he want based house and remained there until the cold weather had passed.

During the day the bears returned, and deer and two antelope, the first he had seen in a year, moved down into the miner vailey in which his shack stands. That night we weather was so cold that Mr. Schiles was afree to go to sleep, and kept a roaring fire in the stove all night. The night was made hideous, he says, by the coyotes and bears, made hideous, he says, by the coyotes and bears. The animals pressed close against the house, and he could hear them fighting for places particularly near the two windows from which the light emanated. Once or twice one of the animals, probably a bear, would dash against the house as if to break it in, and the deer were heard uttering plaintive cries during the night. At 3 o'clock Mr. Schiles drew his spirit thermometer in from the roof by way of the chimney hole and found the thermometer still at 58 degrees below, the same that it had been twelve hours before. He thinks it was a great deal colder, and that the chemicals had been frozen. The night was a terribly long one, and at 8 o'clock in the morning when Mr. Schiles awoke from a short nap the animals had moved away, and the weather moderated considerably, the mercury showing only 18 points below zero.

On opening the door of his house, which he did cautiously, he saw two bears, a deer and a coyote lying on the ground. The deer and coyote had been killed during the night by the bears, but the two bears had no marks and had evidently frozen to death as their bodies were rigid. The antiers on one of the deer was broken off and the coyote horribly mangled.

THE REVIVED BASTILE.

THE REVIVED BASTILE.

THE REVIVED BASTILE.

From The London Telegraph.

A remarkable work on Paris during the Great Revolution of 1759 has been compiled by M. Charles Chassin, and will shortly make its appearance. The book will be communicated to the Commissioners of Historical Researches Concerning the Revolution, and will, no doubt, be adopted by them and added to the lists of completely original works on the same subject which are already in their hands. The most important of the archives of Paris, which were kept at the Hotel de Ville, the Prefecture of Police, and the Louvre Library, disappeared during the Commune, but M. Chassin has succeeded in unearthing several documents from which the history of the elections of the States-General, the convocation of Paris citizens to the last meetings of the same body, and other facts of the kind can be reconstituted. Among the more original portions of his work are accounts of the proceedings which were instituted against Dr. Guillotin's famous "Petitions des Domicilies." These petitions related to the liberty of the press and the rights of holding meetings, framing petitions and organizing associations. Several hichertic unpublished letters from King Louis XVI. and his officials relating to the city are likewise among the documents which have been collected for the volume.

Another remarkable work in connection with the forthcoming Centenary of the Revolution is the reconstruction of the Bastile, which is growing apace on the Champ de Mars. This curious feature of the Exhibition, it appears, will be ready for the inspection of Paristans by May I next, when its organizers, M. Calibert, a pupil of Viollet-Ledue, and M. Ferruson, a ceramist, expect to have it ready in overy detail. The revived Bastile and its surroundings are in wood and stone work. The reproduction of the grim fortress will not be as high as its original, but it is expected to produce a sufficiently striking effect with its eight towers, its erenelated and machicolated battements, its drawbridges, moat and cells, all of w

New Unblications.

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IS OUR SOCIAL LIFE THREATENED? Bishop J L. MHAT SHALL THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEACH?

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ev. C. H. Parkhurst, paster of the Madison Avenue
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NEW-YORK, February 8, 1888.

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BIDS OR PROPOSALS for furnishing and delivering and laving 40 linch cast from pipes and them approved the property of the following at the cast from pipes and the property of the following at the law of the consection of the Park Reservor, and doing all other work in connection the example of the law of the content of the law of the

Hy order of the Aqueduct Commissioners.
Hy order of the Aqueduct Commissioners.
JAMES C. SPENCER, President.
JOHN C. SHERHAN, Secretary.

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ticable.

Alank forms of said approved contract, and the specifications thereof, and lads or proposals, and proper cuvolence for their enclosure, and form of bonds, and also the plans for said work, and all other information can be obtained at the above office of the Aqueduct Commissioners on application

above office of the Aqueduct Commissioners on application to the secretary.

By order of the Aqueduct Commissioners.

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New York, February 8, 1888.

NUMBER 3.

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